

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 011077

41

ORIGIN NEA-10

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DRAFTED BY NEA/INS:DRTELLEEN:MMK

APPROVED BY NEA/INS:DKUX

INR/RNA:GGRIFFIN

EA/PRCM:JSROY

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R 160113Z JAN 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

INFO USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 011077

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IN, BT, CH

SUBJECT: MRS. GANDHI ON CHINA/BHUTAN

REF: (A) NEW DELHI 501; (B) NEW DELHI A-1

1. WE NOTE REPORT PARA 7 REF A THAT MRS. GANDHI TOLD SENATOR MCGOVERN THAT CHINESE ARE DEMANDING LAND FROM BHUTAN WHICH WOULD GIVE THEM BETTER ACCESS TO INDIA. WE ARE NOT AWARE OF ANY RECENT DEVELOPMENTS CONCERNING THE BHUTAN/TIBET BORDER, AND NOTE REPORT REF B THAT CHINESE ARE KEEPING A LOW PROFILE IN BHUTAN IN VIEW OF FATE OF SIKKIM.

2. THUS WE ARE INCLINED TO REGARD MRS. GANDHI'S COMMENT AS A REFERENCE TO OLD CARTOGRAPHIC DIFFERENCES TO BOLSTER HER CURRENT EMPHASIS ON EXTERNAL THREAT. HOWEVER, WOULD APPRECIATE ANY LIGHT EMBASSY CAN SHED ON THIS ISSUE. KISSINGER

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To: NEW DELHI
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